

CHAPTER 6

Recommendations

Any historic resource study is essentially a site-specific context statement, with many of these works following a topical approach. This is a fairly standardized way of allowing for each topic (such as exploration, settlement, recreation, and so forth) to be summarized and related to an associated property type so that physical manifestations in a park unit that are tied to human action can be evaluated under the National Register's criteria for significance. It is a process that helps determine what historic resources are worthy of preservation. Section 110 of the National Historic Preservation Act requires the NPS and other federal agencies to inventory and evaluate those cultural resources eligible for the National Register and then nominate those properties.

Organization of historic resource studies are chronological, as it is in most historical narratives, mainly because a kind of shelf or "period of significance" can be constructed for such properties and then related to the broader regional or national context. This approach works well where a number of topics can be related to the site or park area, and the purpose is simply to support current or future nominations to the National Register. Larger meanings associated with a small place can sometimes be obscured or lost completely if a context study adheres strictly to the topical approach. To better serve the goal of interpreting the past, yet also address its material manifestations, this study makes use of bracketed time periods (beginning with 1851 to 1884) in tying

Oregon Caves to regional or national patterns.

The study still treats time horizontally rather than vertically, so that the layering of human use over a century or more is difficult to assess. Layering can run counter to judgments of integrity, since the National Register criteria for this dimension of the nomination process are most easily applied when contributing resources (buildings, structures, sites, districts, objects) reflect one period of significance, not several. This is not only expedient, but since any assessment about whether a candidate historic property can tell a story (or at least communicate its significance through physical appearance) can be defended on the basis of whether it reflects the treatment of time as horizontal; for example, does the ranger residence at Oregon Caves possess enough architectural integrity so that one could learn something about CCC workmanship? It does not, however, work so well in evaluating the cave tour route—a development which contains material manifestations of the CCC, as well as something from all of the bracketed time periods which are used as delineations to separate the previous five chapters in this study. National Register nominations can nevertheless identify important aspects of the themes presented in statements of historic context, even where time has to be seen as vertical.

Eligibility for the National Register of Historic Places

Listing of historic properties on the National Register at the monument began with designation of the Oregon Caves Chateau as a national historic landmark in 1987. Its designation by the Secretary of the Interior resulted from a theme study conducted by NPS historian Laura Soulliere Harrison called “Architecture in the Parks.”¹ Listing of the Oregon Caves Historic District in 1992 expanded the National Register boundaries around the hotel and made the Chateau a centerpiece among four other contributing resources: the Chalet, Guide Dormitory, Ranger Residence, and Checking Kiosk/Comfort Station. The boundaries of this district were drawn contiguously around these five buildings, but the character-defining features went beyond the structures to include vehicular and pedestrian circulation, vegetation (plantings used to “naturalize” the area affected by construction activities as well as intensive visitor use), and small scale features such as retaining walls, steps, pools, and outdoor lighting standards. The historic district is thus a rather oddly shaped polygon.²



FIGURE 74. CCC enrollees doing trail work at Oregon Caves in 1935. (Photo by George F. Whitworth, OCNM Museum and Archives Collections.)

Most of the monument's trail system is potentially eligible for the National Register under criterion A (for its association with events that made significant contributions to the broad patterns of American history); and criterion C (for distinctive characteristics of a type, period or method of design). These criteria are developed more fully in regard to rustic architecture throughout the national parks by Linda McClelland in her multiple property documentation forms that were revised into a book titled *Building the National Parks: Historic Landscape Design and Construction*. In the case of Oregon Caves, the broader topics of conservation, public recreation, and landscape architecture in American history converge as a theme—naturalistic or “rustic” design practiced by the NPS. Using McClelland's work as a guide, the landscape characteristics of Oregon Caves National Monument can be organized into a general property type (National Parks, Parkways, and Monuments) and landscape sub-types such as trail systems built by the CCC from 1934 to 1941.³

As a pedestrian circulation system, it should have been included with the Oregon Caves Historic District nomination in 1991, though methods of documenting and evaluating such trails were arguably in their infancy at that time. With very few exceptions, the monument's trail system possesses integrity of location, design, setting, materials, workmanship, feeling, and association that still mirror the period (1935-1941) of its construction. It is thus recommended that the nomination for the Oregon Caves Historic

District be amended through a boundary increase to include most of the trail system.⁴

Properties such as the trail system must be both historically significant and possess integrity to qualify for listing on the National Register. The trails reflect design standards produced through centralized planning in the NPS instead of *ad hoc* decisions made purely at the local level, as was the case when Burch and Harkness brought the first trails at Oregon Caves into being. The Forest Service then expanded pedestrian circulation over what the private entrepreneurs started by way of access routes from Williams and the Illinois Valley, with a trail to Lake Mountain. Some of the trails on the Siskiyou National Forest have been realigned and rebuilt over time, just as those at Oregon Caves have—but the monument's trails are more directly an inheritance from the CCC, one aimed at creating a circulation system for recreational use instead of access for fire control and a variety of other purposes.⁵

The National Register also requires that historic properties eligible for listing retain a significant degree of integrity, though a property can nevertheless sustain some alteration and remain eligible as long as it retains historic character. There are trails showing changes that took place after World War II, such as the small reroutes that take hikers away from two stream crossings on the No Name loop. These adjustments do not greatly affect this trail's integrity, given how it retains a number of character-defining features (or material qualities) that are listed below:

1. *Alignment* (as built by the CCC);
2. *Width* (generally four feet, though not in all cases);
3. *Tread surface* (unpaved);
4. *Cross drainage* (mostly culverts, but also the occasional water bar);
5. *Varied gradients* (according to NPS standards issued in 1934);
6. *Banksloping* (treatments to round slopes, or use of methods like raking the trail margins back using standard ratios);
7. *Dry laid stone retaining walls* (where native rocks are stacked to support tread);
8. *Stone steps* (either carved or placed);
9. *Dry laid stone benches* (cut into hillsides and set without mortar);
10. *Overlooks, or planned views and vistas.*

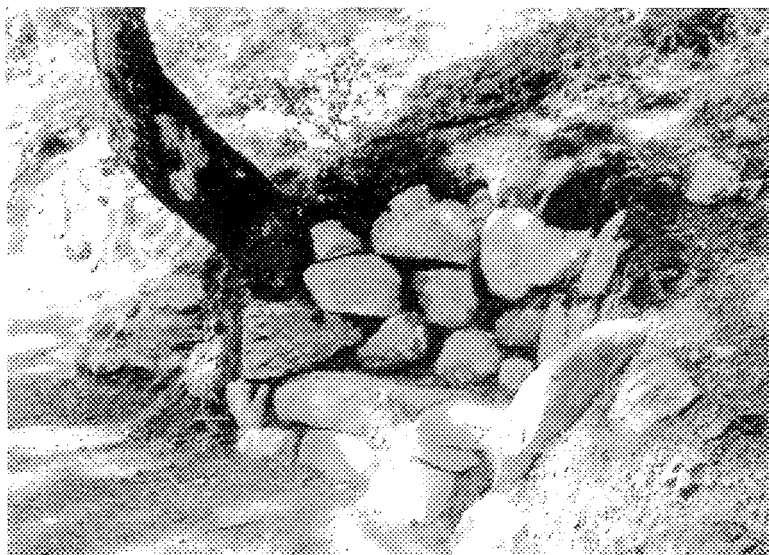


FIGURE 75. Dry laid stone bench, 1935. (OCNM Museum and Archives Collections.)

The following trails thus appear to be potentially eligible for listing: a) No Name Loop; b) Cliff Nature; c) Lake Mountain (portion within the monument); d) Big Tree loop (including the spur for horses, known currently as the “Old Growth” Trail); and e) “Oregon Caves” or Williams (portion within the monument).⁶ All of these trails were built (or rebuilt) to NPS standards by the CCC in accordance with location studies or drawings by engineers and landscape architects who were paid with funds provided through Emergency Conservation Work (ECW), the governing authority over the CCC.⁷

Aside from its location and setting, the Cave Exit Trail’s integrity has been so badly compromised that it cannot be considered a contributing resource, or even eligible for listing on the National Register. Wooden guardrail (which recently replaced steel pipe installed during the 1950s) and asphalt paving over a widened tread surface are the major changes on this trail, one that has fewer than half of the character-defining features listed above. Its contribution to the broader CCC-built pedestrian circulation system is thus minimal. Another problem is that the exit trail constitutes a part of a loop (tour route) through the cave which starts at the main entrance across from the Chateau. Along the tour route in the cave, CCC work is largely evident only where marble

steps are encountered along some parts of the route, and at the connecting tunnel.

Efforts to evaluate roads on the monument and the Caves Highway in relation to it are complicated by persistent questions about what constitutes sufficient integrity. As a "system," state highway 46 begins at the junction with U.S. 199 in Cave Junction and terminates in less than twenty miles near the cave entrance. Although a short section (measuring about 20 yards) of the original eight foot-wide "trail" built in 1922 is still intact below the Chalet (and can thus be found within the existing historic district), the other part of this linear feature leading from the main parking lot was widened when NPS landscape architect Francis Lange and the CCC added the walkway which has since vanished. The main parking lot has been widened twice, with the loss of some tree canopy and features designed by Lange having come when the NPS repaired damage stemming from the slide in 1942.

Other roads at Oregon Caves include the service route pioneered by the concessionaire in 1929 and later widened by the CCC that goes past the Chateau toward employee parking and terminates at the incinerator site. Only part of it is paved, with the unsealed portion being the most extensive, and there is damage from cross drainage failures in several places. Aside from a retaining wall supporting the employee lot, a fairly uniform gradient over its length, and two rustic lighting standards, the service road lacks integrity where a coherent design and identifiable character-defining features that go with it are clearly evident. The only other road at Oregon Caves is a segment built in 1982 to connect the Caves Highway with Forest Road 960 (and thus a network of roads on the Siskiyou National Forest) in case a forest fire or similar emergency dictates the need for secondary egress from the monument. It is not eligible for listing on the National Register even if character-defining features were present, due to not meeting the minimum age of 50 years needed for evaluating a potential historic property.

Off the monument, changes to the Caves Highway over most of its length have been minimal since the day labor project to widen it was completed in 1931. This has prompted the Oregon Department of Transportation (ODOT; formerly the Oregon State Highway Department until 1979) to have listed it as one of the few historic roads in the state's highway system.⁸ What this means is questionable in light of bridge replacement over Lake



FIGURE 76. View of the highway and surroundings by Frank Patterson, about 1925. (OCNM Museum and Archives Collections.)

Creek after storm damage in 1996 weakened an earlier structure. At that point ODOT staff determined that not only was the bridge (a wooden structure patched after the 1964 flood) not eligible for the National Register, the entire Caves Highway failed to meet NRHP criteria—a finding that evidently met the concurrence of the State Historic Preservation Office.⁹

Boundaries for the existing historic district should be modified to reflect the character of physical development at Oregon Caves, in particular that which occurred from 1934 to 1942. The site boundaries shown in a cultural landscape inventory conducted in 1990 are a good start, in that the lines drawn are more in sympathy with the monument's rugged topography, even if they still exclude most of its trail system.¹⁰ Aside from the "reception center" (Checking Kiosk/Comfort Station), however, the parking lot and picnic area have undergone such change as the result of landslides (the most recent one occurred in 1996) that both have lost integrity and do not contribute to the historic district. The trail system that radiates from the cave entrance area or plaza could be included within the existing historic district through an amended nomination, one that specifies district boundaries following trail corridors. A trail corridor is defined by the limits of original construction; in many cases this means only the width of existing tread if other character-defining features are absent. The entrance sign built by the CCC is, by contrast, a noncontiguous part of an expanded historic district, but its boundary could be drawn around the supporting structure.

What is presently the Oregon Caves Historic District should thus contain the five contributing resources listed in 1992, but also reflect the site boundaries recommended in the cultural landscape inventory, yet include the five trails determined eligible and the monument's entrance sign motif. All of these properties will meet the registration requirements set forth in Linda McClelland's multiple property documentation form for landscape design in national and state parks. According to this form, properties must:

- 1) be associated with the twentieth century movement to develop national park units for public enjoyment, and to conserve natural features and scenic areas as public parks;
- 2) retain several or all of the physical characteristics listed above that were developed for that area during or before the New Deal Era (1933-1942);
- 3) reflect the following principles and practice of park landscape design developed and used by the NPS in national parks from 1916 to 1942 and in state and national parks through ECW, CCC, the Public Works Administration (PWA), or the Works Progress Administration (WPA) projects from 1933 to 1942—
 - a) protection and preservation of natural scenery and features
 - b) prohibition of exotic plants and wildlife
 - c) presentation of scenic vistas through the location of park facilities and development of overlooks
 - d) avoidance of right angles and straight lines in the design of roads, trails, and structures
 - e) use of native materials for construction and planting
 - f) use of naturalistic techniques in planting and rockwork to harmonize manmade development with natural surroundings
 - g) adaptation of indigenous or frontier methods of construction
 - h) transplanting and planting of native trees, shrubs, and ground cover to erase the scars of construction and earlier uses of the land;
- 4) possess historic integrity of location, setting, design, materials, workmanship, feeling, and association, and over all reflect the physical appearance and condition of the landscape during the period of significance (1916 to 1942).¹¹

Other sites related to Oregon Caves National Monument deserve further study, even if they lie outside monument boundaries. Three of them lie on the old trail to Williams, with Pepper Camp being the closest. Although it currently serves as a road junction in the national forest about two miles northeast of Oregon Caves, a number of blazed trees associated with early use can be seen there. Further away in the national forest are the Grayback Glades, in all likelihood a frequented camping spot on the old trail because it represented most of the climb from Williams. Nearer that community on the west fork of Williams Creek is Caves Camp, once the most popular trailhead for a trip to Oregon Caves, but it is located on private land. On the Illinois Valley side, the CCC site called Camp Oregon Caves is located within the national forest next to the Cedar Guard Station. Although the guard station and its adjoining garage are already listed on the National Register, an archaeological investigation could be conducted over the wider area to include the confluence of Grayback and Sucker creeks so as to discern past use as ranch property and forest camp. There are, of course, a number of other sites on the now combined Rogue River – Siskiyou National Forest such as the Bigelow Lakes, where additional information about the past as it pertains to Oregon Caves could be gleaned—though this must also be left to future studies.

Back on the monument, none of the Mission 66 era facilities are eligible for listing since they do not meet applicable National Register criteria. Under criterion A, such development would have to demonstrate the shifting focus of park concerns during the period of significance (1946 to 1972), the character of the monument's labor force and the NPS response to postwar patterns of visitation. According to a draft multiple property documentation form aimed at NPS units in the Pacific West Region (of which Oregon Caves National Monument is a part), property types associated with Mission 66 must exhibit an emphasis on: interpreting the park's resources to the public, providing for protection of the park's resources, and expanding facilities to efficiently manage the dramatic increases in visitation that parks like Oregon Caves experienced in the postwar era.¹² For the most part, Mission 66 at the monument consisted of some piecemeal changes to the facilities and infrastructure developed between 1916 and 1942. These changes have either been subsumed by subsequent alterations (as along the cave tour route), destroyed by natural hazards (such as



FIGURE 77. CCC Enrollees from Camp Oregon Caves collecting peat from one of the Bigelow Lakes in 1935.

the landslide event of 1996 that affected the main parking lot), or surrounded by newer structures (like administration building and housing at the Lake Creek site).

For Mission 66 properties at Oregon Caves to be eligible under criterion C, they would also have to be associated with the modernist design precepts and construction techniques practiced by NPS architects and landscape architects working in the Western Office of Design and Construction (WODC) in San Francisco. Stripped of excessive ornamentation (in comparison to the rustic architecture that preceded it), built of prefabricated materials, and oriented toward efficiency of visitor use, Mission 66 buildings and structures represented a distinct break with earlier naturalistic design.¹³ Of the ten property types so far outlined, Oregon Caves received only three during the period of significance (1946 to 1972) and only two (the picnic area below the main parking lot and a residence at Lake Creek) are extant.¹⁴

In neither case, however, can the properties be considered clearly indicative of modernist trends in site planning or architectural design precipitated a shift in how an area like Oregon Caves might be characterized. The picnic area replaces the CCC built log tables and fireplaces engulfed by the landslide of 1942. It is now below the parking area (as opposed to the canyon, its location before the slide) and consists of only a few sites leveled just

enough to accommodate some stout wooden tables. The Lake Creek residence resembles hundreds of others built in the national parks during Mission 66, usually as part of larger housing developments. This dwelling has undergone some interior and exterior alterations, with perhaps its only distinction being that the NPS designed and built the dwelling on national forest land under a special use permit from the Forest Service.¹⁵

Interpreting the Past at Oregon Caves

Nature guiding, or “interpretation” (as it came to be known), has always centered on the cave—with the vast majority of visitors experiencing the monument only through the conducted tour. Other opportunities to reach the public have nevertheless come in ranger-led campfire programs and walks, but also through non-personal services such as trail guides, wayside exhibits, indoor displays, and guidebooks. In addition to a logical focus on geology, cave life, and terrestrial biota, some aspects of the monument’s social history and physical development are of interest to visitors.¹⁷ Exploration of the topics listed below should be accompanied by application of historical method, which is centered on what the past means to the present. What visitors can verify in the realm of change and continuity at Oregon Caves can be used to bring any of these topics into their larger spatial and temporal contexts if the interpretation of the past is sufficiently thematic. Some suggested theme statements derived from this study are:

1. Indian removal in southwest Oregon is only one part in a larger process of contact and settlement that included activities like mining, commercial agriculture, and logging.
2. A “discoverer” like Elijah Davidson only becomes relevant to an industrial nation state when infrastructure like highways are extended to peripheral heritage sites like Oregon Caves.
3. Proclamation and public funding for development as a national monument can be seen as part of a larger trend of the federal government to subsidize the growth of the American west as a region in the absence of sufficient private capital.
4. Rustic architecture at Oregon Caves National Monument not only harkens back to the 1920s and 30s as a way to

unify park facilities based on the older model of a landscape garden, it also serves as a window to understanding how one culture and its progenitors perceive nature.

5. While rustic architecture can be linked with a desire to make earth into a vision of heaven, more standardized types of park facilities have, by contrast, been seen in a negative light, as intrusions on a scene that do little to evoke the “genius” of the place.

Most people learn to value the past through concepts or patterns only when they can literally see them assume physical form. The foregoing theme statements can be used as organizing devices to illustrate how the past at Oregon Caves with all its incongruities relates to the present, but only in concert with tangible objects or the experience of specific places. What follows are some suggestions about how to approach the theme statements as reflected in corresponding chapters of this study:

Contact and settlement. This is perhaps best illustrated away from the monument, in the wider Illinois Valley, though a program given below the Chalet or at the visitor center in Cave Junction. It could use an oak tree to illustrate how the survival of indigenous peoples was tied to the availability of local food resources like acorns. There is a reconstructed dwelling at the Kerbyville Museum on the Redwood Highway, but Indian removal is a difficult topic to convey without traveling to places much more distant—like Fort Hoskins in Benton County or what remains of the Siletz Reservation in Lincoln County.¹⁸ Signs of mining activity are plentiful throughout the Illinois River basin, though few are located where visitors will congregate. Still, the best interpretive device that pertains to hydraulic mining is undoubtedly the Gin Lin Trail next to Flumet Flat Campground on the Rogue River National Forest south of Ruch (in Jackson County), though the results can still be seen in the landscape around Waldo.

Commercial viability. Remnants of wagon roads persist throughout southwest Oregon, though the old stage route (which is still maintained for travel by BLM) between Selma and Williams provides a sense of how the rugged topography affected early travelers. At least one of the Davidson homesteads can be seen from a distance around Williams, not too far from Elijah’s grave in the Sparlin Cemetery. These could be linked with the commemorative stone next to the entrance of Oregon Caves, as might the signa-

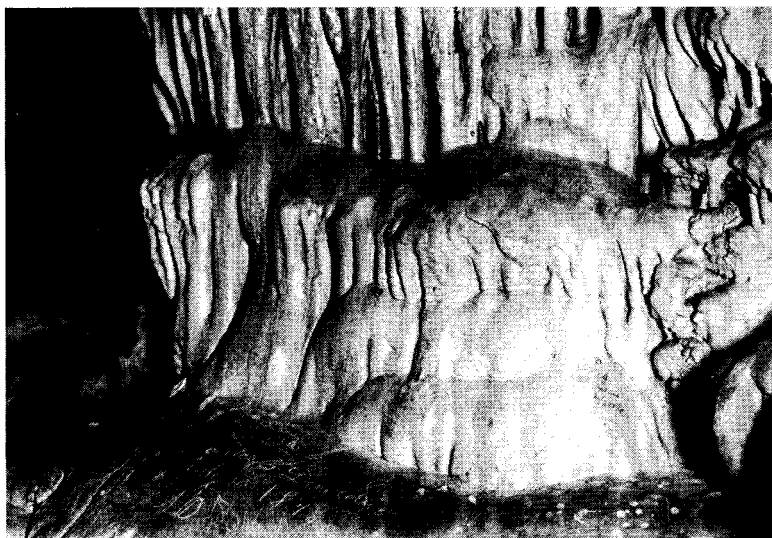


FIGURE 78. Carter Davidson's signature of July 10, 1878 can be seen at the bottom of this image taken in 1931. (U.S. Forest Service photo, Siskiyou National Forest).

ture of his brother Carter on one of the formations. A small piece of the trail blazed by Burch from Williams can be followed for a short distance before it disappears into a brush field in the Siskiyou National Forest, but perhaps more evocative of early attempts to promote a show cave are the discolored rooms and broken formations left by early visitors. Exactly what can be attributed to the smoking torches and souvenir hunting associated with expeditions like the *Examiner* party is nearly impossible, however. A trail linking the monument with Cave Creek Campground corresponds with the route taken by many visitors before the Oregon Caves Highway was completed in 1922. It provides an acute sense of how remote the possibility of a commercially viable show cave was without an automobile road.

Federal aid for infrastructure. Roads and development of recreational facilities are only two ways in which governments have subsidized infrastructure in the west. They did so for geopolitical and economic reasons, with roads serving as an example of how the quickly evolving technology associated with automobiles dictated centralized authority in federal and state governments that had to prevail over county jurisdiction or local initiative in building roads. The earliest iteration of the Oregon Caves Highway can be seen in two locations: one being a short section of roadway below

the Chalet; the other is below a concrete bridge spanning Sucker Creek near the realigned section of highway at Grayback. Subsequent widening produced the Oregon Caves Highway as seen above Grayback since 1931, where major alterations have been limited to a flood-damaged section where the road crosses Lake Creek. Aside from some small sections of dry laid wall that blend together with later work and some fragments of the diesel house and studio, there are precious few reminders of facility development at the monument which pre-date transfer of Oregon Caves to the NPS in 1934.¹⁹

Rustic architecture. The existing historic district is configured to emphasize naturalistic landscape design and the rustic architecture that still characterize what visitors see around the cave entrance and to some extent on the trail system. Many of the high points about culturally-contrived perceptions of nature can be covered on a tour of the Chateau (see Appendix 1). Readers are urged to consult the district nomination and cultural landscape report, as well as Historic American Buildings Survey documentation and the historic structure report on the Chateau for background and specifics.²⁰ Understanding how the Civilian Conservation Corps shaped the monument requires some acquaintance with the area around Cedar Guard Station, as the site of Camp Oregon Caves is located between the highway and a road going up Grayback Creek. The camp's influence goes beyond the NPS and USFS projects undertaken throughout this part of the Illinois Valley, since its sawmill allowed enrollees to produce lumber for CCC projects like picnic tables, furniture, and rustic signs shipped to other park sites.²¹

Postwar changes. Some writers have cast rustic architecture as the antithesis to park facilities built after 1942, but most development above ground remained somewhat subtle and small in scope. This reinforced the perception that the resort created before World War II ended had largely stood still, even if changes on the tour route or in the main parking lot came with measurable impacts. Most of the inadvertent damage to the cave has been reversed, or at least mitigated to some extent, but there is an opportunity for interpreters to combine a "natural" topic with its "cultural" over-lays. This is true in the cave (where the effect of asphalt paving, for example, could be discussed) or above ground, whether one highlights changes in forest composition due to fire suppression or wants to make natural hazards like landslides relevant to visitors

standing in the main parking lot. Relating how the monument is positioned in a scenic "hierarchy" of units administered by the NPS or among the region's visitor attractions is more elusive, however, since the conceptualization needed will be better suited to a written, rather than an oral, presentation.

Additional research

Any study of this type can raise more questions than it answers. New lines of inquiry open from locating materials that support broad themes, especially those that have physical manifestations that are clearly or even subtly evident at a site like Oregon Caves National Monument. Chapters three and four form the heart of this study, yet they also could serve as the launching point to pursue further development of the following topics, especially in a comparative context:

1. There must be parallels in the way this cave has been developed and perceived with others in the United States or elsewhere (see Appendix 2). These patterns could support a model that might be used to organize and present an administrative history of Oregon Caves National Monument.

2. The relationship of the federal government to its concessionaires has never received broad enough treatment for comparisons between sites so as to explain the relationship of regulator to the regulated. Oregon Caves represents an engaging case study, one that could be presented in some form through an administrative history, of how concession operations dominated the concerns of both NPS and USFS managers for more than 75 years.

3. Development of roads and trails in or around the monument needs to be set against a background of how transportation infrastructure in the surrounding area developed from decisions made by engineers or other key officials acting through federal and state authorities.

4. The effects of promoting the monument as a show cave needs to be better understood, especially where constituent groups like the Grants Pass Chamber of Commerce and its offshoot, the Oregon Cavemen, exerted their influence on early managers of the monument. These promotional efforts need to be understood in context of other civic boosters in Oregon and perhaps elsewhere, especially as they relate to commercial advertising by concessionaires and institutional efforts like those of the Oregon State



FIGURE 79. Joaquin Miller's Chapel served as the venue for this wedding in 1944. (OCNM Museum and Archives Collections.)

Highway Commission or the NPS.

5. Gust Lium's role as designer and contractor at Oregon Caves should be placed in context to his work for the Forest Service and in Grants Pass for private parties. Some additional biographical information might also be useful.

6. More information about how the Civilian Conservation Corps operated at Camp Oregon Caves could not only yield important information about their projects at the monument and on the Siskiyou National Forest, but also how enrollees at this camp provided lumber from its sawmill for other park units, or made custom furniture and rustic signs. The camp also interacted with NPS administration at Crater Lake, as well as CCC detachments at Lava Beds and sites under the jurisdiction of the Oregon state parks superintendent Samuel Boardman.

7. A chronology of timber sales near Oregon Caves, particularly those that occurred within the area proposed for expansion of the monument, could be compiled to determine whether activities on adjacent lands come with an impact on a small national monument. This question and the perceptions that come with it might be addressed within an administrative history of the park.

Available funding for this study did not permit a visit to the National Archives II in College Park, Maryland, where early records pertaining to the proclamation and management of Oregon Caves are likely housed in record groups 95 (U.S. Forest



FIGURE 80. The Oregon Caves Company's kiosk and billboard at Cave Junction in June 1958. (OCNM Museum and Archives Collections.)

Service) and 49 (General Land Office). This repository could be the ideal spot to also investigate RG 79 (National Park Service) as part of comparative work that involves other federally-administered caves and concession operations (topics 1 and 2).

A more systematic search for records pertaining to road construction might be conducted, beginning in RG 30 (Bureau of Public Roads) at the National Archives branch in Seattle, but a search for possible BPR materials may prove rewarding at the Federal Highway Administration office in Vancouver, Washington (topic 3). The Oregon State Archives in Salem also houses records relating to the construction of state highways in southwest Oregon, but use of the finding aids that can be obtained from the Oregon Department of Transportation's History Center is recommended before visiting the archives. More information about trail construction, especially the early routes on the Siskiyou National Forest, might be available through RG 95 in the Seattle branch of the National Archives; alternatively, a visit to the Illinois Valley Ranger District in Cave Junction may prove to be just as fruitful.

Promotion as a show cave might be better understood if boosterism could be put in statewide context and even regional perspective (topic 4). On a publicly supported basis, organized boosterism began tied to the rise of commercial clubs (or chambers of commerce, as they became known); material held at the Oregon Historical Society in Portland could doubtless illuminate the wider

patterns. As for the role of individual promoters tied to the Oregon Caves, more information about the concession company stockholders and their employees such as Gust Lium (topic 5) could be gathered in repositories like the Southern Oregon Historical Society (Medford) and the Josephine County Historical Society (Grants Pass).

Some additional material related to Camp Oregon Caves (topic 6) has been collected from RG 35 (CCC) and RG 79 (NPS) from the NARA II facility at College Park. To adequately put the CCC at the monument into context, however, a special study of the program as it operated at four national park units (Oregon Caves, Crater Lake, Lava Beds, and Lassen Volcanic) within the larger Western Region of the NPS is recommended. Surprisingly little work has been done to assess the full impact of this work relief program on the development of these parks, let alone differentiate projects funded from other sources like the Public Works Administration. A multi-park study would involve visits to the National Archives branch in San Bruno, California, to review material housed in both of the aforementioned record groups (35 and 79), but also should include some tracking of CCC companies as they moved to spike camps and/or work sites away from the four parks.